

neighborhood news



November 2013

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods



Website, Blog and Social Media Workshop

Thursday, Nov 7, 6:30-8pm

Bellevue City Hall Room 1E-113

Many Bellevue residents have asked for an opportunity to learn about social media and other community building tools. The Neighborhood Outreach Team is sponsoring a workshop on November 7 (6:30-8pm at City Hall) for the community to learn and share. Residents interested in online tools and social media can come join their neighbors for an engaging presentation by a social media expert and learn what other Bellevue neighborhoods are doing to connect with their neighbors online.

Guest speaker Elizabeth Stewart will highlight the following in her presentation and a panel of three neighborhood leaders will share their experience using websites and social media:

- Overview of available online tools for neighborhoods
- Social media strategies to engage a community
- Tips to grow neighborhood online presence
- Effective methods for online posting
- Successes and lessons learned from Bellevue neighborhoods

Elizabeth P. Stewart is the director of the Renton History Museum and chair of 4Culture's Heritage Advisory Committee. She has been a key member of the City of

Renton's social media team working with local communities to improve communication and increase resident involvement. She has in-depth understanding of social media and is passionate about building strong neighborhood connections through online community. Elizabeth also has a particular interest in social media's role in emergency preparation planning and civic engagement.

Light refreshments will be served, please RSVP to Ying Carlson at ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4342

Coming to a Neighborhood Near You Help shape the City's plan for the future

In the spring the city heard from the community its "best ideas" for Bellevue in its Best Ideas campaign that generate more than a hundred ideas for improving the city. Those ideas are now being used to help shape the city's vision for the future.

As the city sets its plan for the future it needs to continue to hear from neighborhoods how to address issues like transportation, housing and parks. Join us for coffee and conversation with your neighbors and city planners.

- November 12, 6:30-8:00, Eastgate Elementary, 4255 153rd Ave SE
- December 3, 5:00-6:30, Interlake High School Library, 16245 NE 24th St



Families welcome. Space is limited, please RSVP to mluce@bellevuewa.gov

Additional Meeting details will be posted at: <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/comp-plan-update.htm> or call Paul Inghram, Comprehensive Planning Manager at 425-452-4070 for more information.

Keep Track of the Comprehensive Plan Update

The city's boards and commissions are continuing to review city policies and plan for the future. Get involved in this important update of the city's long range plan. More information is available at: <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/comp-plan-update.htm>



Bellevue Essentials Graduates Inaugural Class

**Wednesday, Nov. 13,
6:30-8:30pm**
Bellevue City Hall

Twenty-nine class members will celebrate completion of the

9-week Bellevue Essentials course sponsored by the City of Bellevue Neighborhood Outreach Team. These emerging leaders met weekly this fall to study the nuts and bolts of City government. They learned with Council members and key city leadership and staff on a variety of topics from history to planning, transportation, budget, parks, diversity and

more. Class members came away with a new appreciation of the intricacies of City government and the complexity of decision making and public process.

A graduation reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 6:30-8:30pm at City Hall. Rob McKenna, former Attorney General and local civic leader will give a keynote speech on "Your Adventure in Public Service and Civic Engagement". The community is invited to attend. Bellevue Essentials Class of 2014 will begin recruitment in the spring. For more information or to RSVP contact Julie Ellenhorn at jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5372.

Cultural Conversations Ethnic Potluck

Tuesday, Dec 3, 12-2 pm

Crossroads Community Center

Cultural Conversations, a women's group working to build cultural understanding and community connections, will hold its annual



ethnic potluck on December 3 (12-2 p.m., Crossroads Community Center). The group will gather recipes for the 2nd edition of the Cookbook "The World in My Kitchen" and will celebrate diversity and friendship at this event.

Since its initial launch in 2010, Cultural Conversations has grown to a contact list



of more than 250 women. From special cultural subject discussion and training to story sharing, participants enjoy various opportunities to learn, connect and grow within our diverse community.

“The World in My Kitchen” cookbook was a huge success and it generated a buzz in the community. Nearly 300 cookbooks were sold with \$1500 raised to benefit the Hopelink food bank last year.

Bring your empty stomach to try all the homemade meals from around the world. Come meet new friends and learn about other cultures at this event. Please bring a dish share and a recipe to the potluck if you wish. It can be included in the cookbook. RSVP to Ying Carlson at ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov.

Special Events Committee Seeking Volunteers from the Community

The City of Bellevue Special Events Committee is recruiting community members to serve on the committee. The committee is responsible for reviewing special event applications and for setting conditions for the events, while balancing the City’s obligation to protect public health and safety. A few of the current Special Events reviewed by the committee include Symetra Family Forth, Bellevue Rotary 10K, Garden D’lights and Strawberry Festival, plus many more.



If you have a passion for the City of Bellevue and the great events that bring the community together, this might be for you. The committee meets once a month on the second Thursday of each month from 8:30-10:30am at City Hall.

Positions being recruited include:

- Community Representative West (must be a Bellevue Resident living north of I-90 and west of I-405) - 2 positions.
- Business Representative (employee or owner of business) for East Bellevue (north of I-90 and west of I-405), West Bellevue (North I-90 west I-405) and South Bellevue (south I-90). Business Representatives can be either resident or non-resident.

If you are interested in applying, please contact Jon Wilson, Special Events Chair at 425-452-4278 or jwilson@bellevuewa.gov.

Comment on Bellevue’s Wastewater Plan at Open House

Thursday, Nov. 21 5:30-6:30pm.,

Bellevue City Hall Room 1E-113

The City is seeking public comment on the draft Wastewater System Plan and will host an Open House on Nov. 21 from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 1E-113 City Hall (450 110th

Avenue NE) just prior to the Environmental Services Commission meeting.

Printed copies of the draft Wastewater System Plan will be available to check out for a limited time from the Service First desk at City Hall. Electronic versions will be available for purchase on CD for \$5 at City Hall. Interested parties may submit



written comments during or following the Open House, or may speak during oral communications at the beginning or end of the Environmental Services Commission meeting, which starts at 6:30 p.m.

The plan, the result of months of policy review and evaluation of the city's wastewater collection system, provides a road map for management and operation of the system. It is an update of the city's 2002 Comprehensive Wastewater Plan and is intended for customers in Bellevue's service area, city staff, developers and other interested parties.

Those who cannot attend the Open House will have until Dec. 2 to submit comments as part of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process. Comments may be submitted via email to Doug Lane, Utilities Senior Engineer at dlane@bellevuewa.gov or Doug Lane, Utilities Engineering, City Hall 5W, PO Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012.

Newport Hills Holiday Faire

Saturday, Nov. 23 11am-3pm

*Newport Hills Swim and
Tennis Club Banquet Room*

5464 119th Avenue SE

Enjoy holiday shopping at the Newport Hills Holiday Faire featuring one-of-a-kind hand crafted gift items by local artists. Textiles, woodworking, jewelry, paper crafts and lots more! Sponsored by the Newport Hills Community Club, for more information,

contact Robin Bentley

birdsnest425@comcast.net.



Clear Storm Drains to Prevent Flooding

Fall is here, leaves and debris can quickly block storm drains and before you know it, the street floods.



Help prevent

flooding by raking leaves and needles from storm drains near your home or business. Remember, nothing but rain down the storm drain!

Here are some tips about reducing flooding near your home:

- Do not put storm debris in the street. Put it in your yard debris container.
- Use a rake to remove leaves and needles from storm drains. Check often during the rainy season. Debris can build up and stop drainage.
- Clean debris from your gutters and downspouts.
- Test sump pumps.
- Do not dump or throw anything into streams or ditches. Bellevue's streams and channels make up part of the drainage system. Even grass clippings can block the flow of water.



Cider Making in South Bellevue Orchard

A Day of Community Fun, Learning and Cooperation

Over 100 people gathered on a beautiful Saturday in October at the Holy Cross Lutheran apple orchard in Factoria, to pick, wash, cut, press and pasteurize over 1000



pounds of apples. It is estimated that over 50-60 gallons of cider were made. Enthusiastic residents brought their own jug to fill and a suggested canned food donation, that resulted in Holy Cross contributing 80 pounds of non-perishable food to Hopelink and a donation for the Food Backpack Program www.backpackmeals.org for hungry school children. The event, one of over twenty neighborhood gatherings during the summer/fall season, was supported by the City of Bellevue Neighbor Link Program. Watch for our 2014 program offerings in the spring.

Valuable Services Available for Animal Lovers and Pet Owners

The City of Bellevue works with Regional Animal Service of King County (RASKC) to provide programs that support animals and pet owners in Bellevue including funding shelters, low cost spay and neuter services, performing animal control and providing valuable information and resources to pet owners. You can learn more about RASKC services here: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/regionalAnimalServices.aspx>

In addition, RASKC oversees pet licensing. Residents with animals are reminded that licensing is required for all your pets. The small fee (as low as \$15 per year) funds RASKC programs. A license can help you reunite with lost pets, provides a free ride home the first time a licensed pet gets lost, assures 24/7 lost pet license identification, saves lives by funding care for shelter animals and funds animal control enforcement.

You can easily renew your pet license or license a new pet on the RASKC website: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/regionalAnimalServices/License.aspx>

If you care about animals, consider joining the cause as a Bellevue Pet Angel to help share the word about the importance of renewing your license. Contact Shelly Shellabarger at sshellabarger@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-5375 to join the team.



November Meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the city web pages listed below to download agendas.)

11/4 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Mid-Biennium Budget Kickoff, Station Area Planning Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar, Public Hearing on Interim Regulations to Address Rental Housing
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/5 East Bellevue Community Council (5:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Interim Zoning Control and Rental Housing Regulation; Collective Gardens/Medical Marijuana Regulations; Interim Regulations for Recreational Cannabis; 148th Traffic Congestion Update
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

11/5 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Tateuchi Center; Bellwether; Arts policies in the urban design element of the Comp. Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

11/5 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-120) Family homelessness initiative and family housing connection
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

11/7 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-120) East Link Light Rail and Station Area Planning 101 (discussion), committee reports
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

11/11 Veteran's Day – All City Offices Closed

11/12 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Mid-Biennium Budget Kickoff, Station Area Planning Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar, Public Hearing on Interim Regulations to Address Rental Housing
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/13 Planning Commission (6:30, Bellevue College, D106) Eastgate area speaker; Shoreline Master Program; Comprehensive Plan update
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

11/14 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Lakemont Blvd. and Cougar Mountain Intersection Improvements; Transit Master Plan
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

11/18 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Mid-Biennium Budget Discussion, Sound Transit Long-Range Planning Process (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Update on First Bellevue Essentials Program, Bel-Red Street Names, Consent Calendar, Public Hearing on Mid-Biennium Budget, ISD Impact Fees Ordinance, West Lake Sammamish Parkway Project action Council Chambers)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/19 Joint Commissions (6:00p.m., 1E-108) Comprehensive Plan update and environmental trends
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

11/19 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) 2013-2014 Needs Update – Final Draft; Joint Commission Meeting on Environmental Stewardship Initiative
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

11/20 Downtown Livability Advisory Committee (6:30 1E-108) Continued discussion of Downtown amenities and other livability topics
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm>

11/21 Environmental Services Commission Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Wastewater System Plan – Open House 1 hour before regular meeting (5:30PM); Wastewater System Plan Discuss/Respond to questions about draft plan2013 Solid Waste Contract Performance Review; Phantom/Larsen Lakes Drainage Investigation;
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm

11/25 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Regional Issues, East Link Monthly Update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

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http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_news.htm
Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 452-6836.